Cumberland University’s Ryan Wood was named to the NAIA Coaches’ All-America Team on Wednesday, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious All-America honor, by the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA).

"Ryan was by far the most consistent player player we've had here in my seven years at Cumberland," said head coach Dewayne Alexander. "In five years, this guy has never missed a practice, a weight lifting session, a morning run, a class, a meeting -- he's been there every single time.

"Ryan has a perfect make-up for an offensive lineman, he's coachable, tough and competitive. He's been a workhorse for us and I couldn't be more pleased for him to receive this honor."

The Kennesaw Mountain, Ga., native started the final 40 games of his Bulldog career at either guard or tackle, helping Cumberland post a 23-9 mark during his final three seasons, the best three-year period in the program’s history. CU is the winningest collegiate football program in the state of Tennessee over the last three years.

The Bulldogs ranked fourth nationally in rushing yards per game (269.7) and fifth in total rushing yards (2967) in 2012, as CU posted an 8-3 overall record, 4-2 in the Mid-South Conference West Division. Wood was part of the offensive line that helped Lemeco Miller set single-season records for rushing touchdowns (19) and total touchdowns (21).

The AFCA has selected an All-America team since 1945 and currently selects teams in all five of its divisions (NCAA Division I, I